1/4/71

Mr. Richard Kleindienst
Deputy Attorney General
Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Kleindienst,

All of us researching the assassination of President, I am certain, welcome the declassification of some previously withheld documents and pages of documents and hope these include all that can properly be made available.

The two lists sent us by the National Archives are largely meaningless. Neither the numbers listed nor anything available with which they can be compared can yield any meaningful information about what has been released. Thus it is necessary to go to the Archives and examine each page separately before one can know whether it is of interest or help to him. This is a burden for both the researcher and the Archives.

I write to ask if you have and can make available lists of what your Department has released. I presume you maintained lists of what you restricted and of those you released and that this will present no serious problem to you.

In an effort to clarify this for you, let me describe the two lists sent me. One is headed "List of Numbered Documents of the Warren Commission Made Available for Research by the 1970 Review of the Commission's Numbered Document File." There then follows 71 numbers, with nothing more except in three cases, where the withholding of pages is indicated in three cases. May I ask if there were declassifications in any other than the "Numbered Document File"? If so, I have not been so informed and would appreciate a list of these declassifications also. The second list has two columns, one headed "COMMISSION DOCUMENT NUMBER", the other "PAGES NOW AVAILABLE". There follows 45 numbers of documents originating with your Department and the declassified page numbers, no more. Here also it would seem that your Department might well have a more meaningful and useful list for its own and non-secret purposes that it will, I hope, let me have.

Thanks very much for anything you can do.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

HW, GHS, PH, IM, RB